

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05

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DODE-00 INRE-00 /049 W

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAUGE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

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STATE FOR S/PRS

DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR MR. SCOWCROFT AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. NESSEN

LONDON ALSO FOR S/S

USIA FOR IPS/PE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FR, NATO

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER

FOLLOWING ARE REMARKS MADE TO JOURNALISTS AFTER A BREAKFAST MEETING

BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD IN

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BRUSSELS ON DECEMBER 10.

BEGIN QUOTE:

THE SECRETARY:

THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND I HAD AN EXTREMELY FRIENDLY REVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND OF THE RELATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES, WHICH I CONSIDER EXCELLENT. INDEED, AS I LOOK BACK ON OUR TERM I AM PARTICULARLY PLEASED BY THE ENORMOUS IMPROVEMENT THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES IN OUR CONCEPTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. OUR CONVERSATION WAS A TOUR D'HORIZON OF ALL ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN TO OUR TWO COUNTRIES. IT IS ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO MEET WITH MR FRENCH COLLEAGUE.

MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD:

I HAD A VERY INTERESTING CONVERSATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE. WE HAVE ESTABLISHED PERSONAL RELATIONS OF GREAT CONFIDENCE AND I HOPE AND I AM CERTAIN THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. THE RELATIONS BETWEEN PARIS AND WASHINGTON HAVE NEVER BEEN BETTER THAN THEY ARE NOW. WE DISCUSSED A WIDE RANGE OF PROBLEMS, AS THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAID. WE FELT WE WERE IN AGREEMENT ON EVERY SUBJECT. THANK YOU HENRY.

QUESTION:

MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, DOES THIS MEAN THAT FRANCE IS GOING TO BE TAKING A MORE ACTIVE PART IN NATO AFFAIRS?

MINISTER GE GUIRINGAUD:

I DON'T THINK THERE IS ANY CHANGE IN THE STAND OF FRANCE TOWARDS NATO. AS YOU KNOW WE ARE IN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. WE ARE VERY ACTIVE IN THE ALLIANCE, BUT WE HAVE LEFT THE INTEGRATED COMMAND THAT IS NATO AND WE ARE NOT CONSIDERING GOING BACK INTO IT. (MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD DEPARTS).

QUESTION:

WHAT IS YOUR IMPRESSION OF YOUR LAST VISIT HERE IN BRUSSELS AS SECRETARY OF STATE?

THE SECRETARY:

I THINK THE ALLIANCE IS IN GOOD SHAPE. IT NEEDS TO EXTEND ITS UNCLASSIFIED

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MILITARY EFFORT, BUT IN TERMS OF POLITICAL CONFIDENCE AND COMMON PURPOSES IT IS IN VERY GOOD SHAPE.

QUESTION:

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE SPECIFIC PLACE OF BELGIUM IN NATO?

THE SECRETARY:

I THINK THAT BELGIUM AS THE HOST COUNTRY OF NATO HAS A USEFUL AND IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY, AND EXERCISES IT IN THE NATO COUNCIL.

QUESTION:

DO YOU THINK THAT MR. VANCE WILL HAVE AS MUCH POWER AND FREEDOM AS YOU HAVE HAD?

THE SECRETARY:

I THINK THAT MR. VANCE HAS TO SPEAK FOR HIMSELF, BUT AS I UNDERSTAND IT THE PRESIDENT-ELECT INTENDS TO GIVE HIS SECRETARY OF STATE THE NECESSARY FREEDOM OF ACTION. BUT THEY REALLY HAVE TO SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.
END QUOTE KISSINGER

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